[Mr. M. Subrahmanya Pillai.]

praying for an approach road to the village and agreeing to do the necessary earth work themselves;

(*b*) whether they have made enquiries and ascertained if the villagers are really suffering for want of an approach road to their village; and

(*c*) if not, whether they will make enquiries and furnish, with reference to the road, information on the following points:—

(i) whether all the dry lands that originally surrounded the village have not, since the completion of the Kodayar Scheme, been converted into wet lands and whether the villagers can now reach the nearest road, about 2 furlongs off, except by walking along narrow paddy field ridges;

(ii) whether the villagers are able to take their carts and *bandies* to their village, and whether they have not to take out manure and take in agricultural produce only by means of head-loads carried along these field ridges;

(iii) whether invalids and dead bodies have not to be carried along wet and cultivated paddy fields;

(iv) whether the villagers are able to attend to the religious ceremonies in their Roman Catholic church during night time or rainy season, having to walk during such times along these narrow and slippery paddy field ridges; and

(v) whether the villagers are able to celebrate the annual festival in their church at the proper time, *viz.*, on the 11th February and whether they have not to wait till the harvest is over?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) Yes. An estimate for Rs. 950 has been sanctioned and the work will be taken up soon.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to parts (*a*) and (*b*).

Appointment of Mr. A. Venkata Rao as Ag. Head Sirkar Vakil.

111 **MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Mr. A. Venkata Rao has been appointed as Acting Head Sirkar Vakil in the place of Mr. V. S. Subrahmanya Aiyar promoted to the High Court; and

(*b*) whether it was not stated in answer to an interpellation, on a previous occasion, that Mr. A. Venkata Rao is junior to Mr. R. Gopala Menon, Sirkar Vakil, and, if so, why Mr. Venkata Rao was appointed superseding the claims of his seniors?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Mr. A. Venkata Rao, Assistant Head Sirkar Vakil, was appointed Ag. Head Sirkar Vakil, *vice* Mr. A. Venkataramna Aiyar, B. A., B. L., the permanent Head Sirkar Vakil, on other duty as Ag. Judge, High Court, or until further orders.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The appointment of the Head Sirkar Vakil is one filled by selection and not on the basis of seniority. No one has any special claim to the post and hence there is no question of Mr. Venkata Rao superseding any of his seniors.

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MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : സീനിയാറിട്ടിയെ വകവയ്ക്കാതെ നിയമനം നടത്തത്തക്ക വേറെ വല്ല ഉദ്യോഗവും ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): സീനിയാറിട്ടിയെ മാത്രം നോക്കാതെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ട ഉദ്യോഗം പലതും ഉണ്ട്.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*). സീനിയാറിട്ടിയെ അശേഷം വകവയ്ക്കാറില്ലേ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : സീനിയാറിട്ടിയെ അശേഷം വകവയ്ക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നല്ലല്ലോ പറഞ്ഞത്.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : ഇതുകൊണ്ടങ്ങിനെയാണോ കാണുന്നത്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): സെലക്ഷൻ നടത്തി എന്ന് അതിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): സെലക്ഷൻ നടത്തുന്നത് ആരിൽനിന്നാണ്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : അതിനുള്ള യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരിൽനിന്നും.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : വക്കീലന്മാരിൽനിന്നോ സർക്കാർവക്കീലന്മാരിൽനിന്നോ ഏതിൽനിന്നാണ്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): ഏതിൽനിന്നും ആകാം.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : സർക്കാർവക്കീലന്മാരിൽനിന്നാണോ സെലക്റ്റ് ചെയ്യുന്നത്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : സർക്കാർവക്കീലന്മാരിൽനിന്നുമാണ് എന്ന മറുപടിയിൽ കാണാമല്ലോ.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): സെലക്ഷൻ നിടത്തിയത് ഏതു വ്യവസ്ഥയെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുള്ള യോഗ്യതയെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കിയാണ്.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : പ്രാക്റ്റീസിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കിയാണോ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അതു വിവരിച്ചു പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

Expenditure on the Agricultural Department.

112. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the total expenditure including salaries, incurred on the Agricultural Department from its inception to the 1st Mithunam 1102?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The total gross expenditure on account of the Agricultural Department (including Veterinary, Fisheries, etc.) from its inception to the 1st Mithunam 1102 is Rs. 22,18, 201.

Price of Paddy and Rice imported into the State during 1099-1101.

113. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the price of paddy and rice imported into this State from foreign countries in each of the last three years (1099-1101)?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to pages 120—121, 126—127 and 140—141 of the Statistical Volumes for the years 1099, 1100 and 1101 respectively.

Ezhava acting Clerks in the Account Office.

111. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any acting clerks of the Account Office, belonging to the Ezhava community, were relieved since the present Account Officer took charge of that office;

(*b*) if so, the names of those who have been appointed in their places; and

(*c*) whether such appointments were given only to those who had better claims, and, if so, the nature of those claims?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes, on the termination of vacancies. This was not peculiar to the members of the Ezhava community or of any other community in particular.

(*b*) No acting appointment was made in place of any acting man who was relieved.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

Statement, by castes, of Officers in the Account Office.

115. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by castes, of the total number of officers in the Account Office?

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